THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, October 18, 1790.

A Pilgrim's Narration of his own Hiſtory.

[From the Adventures of John of Gaunt.]

(Continued from Page 349.)

MY curioſity having been thus gratified reſpecting the cauſe of this ſingular cuſtom, I next aſked him what volume he had been reading ſo attentively. It is, replied he, "The Lives of the Magicians," and contains the birth, parentage, incantations, and exploits of the moſt famous profeſſors of the necromantic art, either male or female, from the witch of Endor, to the ſorcerers and ſorcereſſes of the preſent century. Laſt night, a little before I accoſted you from the window, I finiſhed Zoroaſter; I am now in Merlin, and much entertained with the wonders which he wrought in behalf of the brave Briton, King Arthur.

I thanked the baron for his courteſy, and roſe to take my departure. He accompanied me down ſtairs, and even to the very portal, apologizing, that the obligation under which he lay of complying moſt ſtrictly with the will of the deceaſed, forbade him to invite me to partake of ſome refreſhment. I conjured him to be in no wiſe uneaſy, adding, that I was ſenſible of the predicament in which he ſtood, and from my ſoul forgave him both the preſent and the paſt. I then wiſhed him a good night, and, as the moon ſhone clearly, directed my haſty ſteps to the

village where I had borrowed the armour. Soon after I resumed my former habit, and pursued my journey through difficult defiles, and over cliffs that appeared scarce accessible.

About sun-set I arrived in a delicious glen, where several persons were making a repast by the margin of a frigid fountain. I saluted them, as I thought it became me, and sate down to eat of their viands, which they charitably proffered to me. They enquired whence I came, and whither I was bound; in a little time afterwards one of them thus addressed me: Young pilgrim, we are a company of merchants who trade in slaves, which we purchase in various countries, and convey to the kingdom of Granada, where we sell them to the Mooriſh monarch, and to the nobles of his realm. Thou seemest to be a stout dog, and shalt therefore come along with us: We will vend thee to Muley Abdallah, who now sits upon the throne; thou wilt find thyself happier within the walls of the Alhambra, than by wearing out thy knees at the shrine of Saint Jago. Comply, young man, without a murmur, to this fair and just proposal, or death anon shall be thy portion.

Astonished, thunder-struck at this declaration, I remained for some moments without uttering a word. At length it occurred to me that the merchant did but jest, and I replied, with a mirthful air, that I would not hesitate to accompany them. Come, come, friend, cried another of the crew, this is no matter to be jested with: Prepare to attend us to the city of Granada, throw away these leaden saints and these cockle-shells from your hat; lay aside your long vestment, and be clad in succinct apparel, befitting your new condition.

The merchant spoke this with so resolute a tone, that there could no longer exist a doubt of the atrocity of their intentions. In vain did I represent to them the perilous and hideous jeopardy in which the soul of my poor brother must of necessity remain, as long as the pilgrimage to Saint Jago was unperformed. Nay, nay, replied one of them, trouble not thyself about Saint Jago; he is a good-natured fellow, and, when he hears that thou art a captive to the King of the Moors, will forgive both thee and thy brother: So gird up thy garments, and make ready to march; for darkness comes on apace, and we must reach a certain cavern where we mean to pass the night. Perceiving that to resist were useless, and trusting to the high heavens for an opportunity of escaping, I accoutred myself as the merchant-robbers had commanded me, and set out in the midst of them for the cavern already

already mentioned. It was dark ere we arrived. My companions, or rather my tyrants, ſlept and watched by turns, ſix of them, at the feweſt, guarding the entrance of the cave; ſo that, had I attempted flight, my deſtruction was inevitable.

In our journey from the Pyrenees to the city of Granada, nothing worthy of narration occurred. The merchants endeavoured to reconcile me to my fortune, and, fearing leſt my health ſhould be impaired by my chagrin, and my value of courſe diminiſhed, were earneſt to amuſe my mind by continued recitals of adventures that had befallen them in their mercantile vocation, moſt of which were ſo ludicrous, and ſo pleaſantly related, that, in ſpite of my misfortunes, they often made me merry; and the merchants obſerved with no little ſatisfaction, when we reached the Mooriſh dominions, that I was fatter and more vigorous than they had expected I would prove.

Great was my aſtoniſhment when I beheld the lofty walls, the beauteous towers, the ſumptuous palaces of the city of Granada. Here all things breathed an air of magnificence and pleaſure. The pompous retinues of the Mooriſh Lords, their noble courſers proudly capariſoned, their turbans and their ſcymitars, glittering with the brighteſt jewels of the Indies, at once delighted and amazed me.

Soon after I was conducted to the palace of the Alhambra, where Juſſouf, the chief chamberlain, agreed with the merchant-robbers to purchaſe me at the price of two hundred ſequins. Thus, while undertaking a pious journey to Compoſtella, was I deſpoiled of the bleſſing of liberty, and condemned to menial offices in an anti-chriſtian land. Is this, ſaid I in my heart, the recompence of fraternal affection, this the guardian care which ſaints beſtow on thoſe who wreſtle with the dangers of the earth and ſeas, to worſhip at their ſhrines, and increaſe their celeſtial glory? Nevertheleſs, I will reſign me to the diſpoſal of the powers above; peradventure, it is good that this diſaſter ſhould have befallen me; it may have ſnatched me from worſe evil, and may redound to my future welfare.

In this diſpoſition of mind I endeavoured to recommend myſelf to the favour of Juſſouf, by a diligent attention to his orders, and by diſcovering an inclination to prevent his wiſhes. The chamberlain was not inſenſible of theſe my aſſiduities. Chriſtian, ſaid he, the morning after he had purchaſed me, captivity ſhall lay her hands but lightly upon thee: The ſlaves of the great Muley Abdallah live in peace. The good Juſſouf accordingly aſſigned

me an eaſy taſk: It was to feed the royal cats,* and ſweep the gardens of the Alhambra.

The chamberlain likewiſe condeſcended to enquire of my birth and fortunes, and by what accident I had come into the poſſeſſion of the merchants. I unfolded my whole ſtory: My adventure with the old Baron of the Pyrenees diverted him: He repeated it to Muley Abdallah, when that monarch retired to reſt, at which time it was cuſtomary for the chamberlain to ſeat himſelf at the foot of the bed, and to relate uncommon hiſtories, till ſleep waved his ebon ſceptre over the eye-lids of the King, and diſmiſſed the impatient Juſſouf.

Next morning, the Mooriſh monarch commanded that I ſhould be brought before him. He was ſitting in a pleaſure-room, the walls of which were painted with gold and azure, in a manner ſo ingenious and delightful to the eye, that nothing in the royal manſions of Chriſtendom could equal it. In the midſt was a fountain, which, from a baſon of green marble, threw up a limpid ſtream, that deſcended afterwards in refreſhing dews, correcting the ſultry breath of ſummer. Many Lords of the court were preſent, many Ladies; amongſt which laſt ſate the Princeſs Arizapha, only daughter to the King, the fame of whoſe beauty had ſpread through all Granada, and through the kingdoms that yet own the domination of the Spaniards. Many Princes of Barbary, and other Saracen ſtates, had ſought this young Princeſs in marriage; but Abdoulraman, a Granadian noble, of ample inheritance and illuſtrious race, was the happy perſon deſtined by Muley Abdallah to obtain the nuptial vows of the beautiful Arizapha.

The monarch, who had heard but imperfectly from the chamberlain concerning the contumely which I had experienced in my pilgrimage, commanded me to relate that adventure to him at large. I obeyed. The great Muley Abdallah then ſwore by the Prophet Mahomet, that it was as whimſical a revenge as ever Baron invented; adding at the ſame time, that Jago of Compoſtella was but a worthleſs ſort of Saint, who permitted his intended votaries to be treated with ſuch indignity, and that, had my pilgrimage been directed to Mecca, the holy Prophet of the Muſſulmans would have taken better care of me. He concluded with adviſing me to ſtudy the Alcoran, and become a true believer.

In

* Theſe animals are held in much eſteem by the Mahometans.

In fine, I received permiſſion to withdraw, and fifty ſequins were given me by the command of Muley Abdallah.

This circumſtance were but little worth relating, but that it led to an event of more importance. For this gleam of good fortune was followed, ere long, by the full ſunſhine of proſperity. One evening, as I was paſſing through the court of the lions, I was tapped on the ſhoulder by an aged female ſlave, who in a low voice deſired me to follow her. She conducted me along the piazza, and to a gateway which I knew led to the apartment of the women. I ſtopped ſhort at the threſhold, and refuſed to proceed; (for it is death for any, but the eunuchs and the female ſlaves, to be ſeen in that quarter) but the old woman, throwing over me a veil and a looſe garment, deſired me to baniſh fear, adding, that I ſhould have no cauſe to repent of my compliance.

I yielded. We paſſed through ſeveral rooms, of unexampled magnificence, and at length came to a door, the key of which my conductreſs drew out from her girdle. We then entered a chamber, at the upper end of which, upon a gorgeous ſofa, ſate a Lady, whoſe mien and figure confeſſed her to be the Princeſs Arizapha. Here, madam, ſaid the old woman, is the ſlave whom you wiſhed to ſpeak with. When I found that it was in the preſence of the Princeſs that I ſtood, I proſtrated myſelf upon the carpet, and kiſſed the duſt moſt humbly. Whereupon ſhe bade me riſe, at the ſame time unveiling a face which might vie with the fairneſs of the daughters of Paradiſe.

Chriſtian, cried the Princeſs Arizapha, from your behaviour yeſterday before the King my father, and from the diſcreet anſwers which you made to ſuch queſtions as were put to you, I am induced to believe that you can do me a certain ſervice, upon which my future happineſs will entirely depend, and for which you ſhall not go unrewarded. When the Princeſs had thus ſpoken, I bowed myſelf to the duſt a ſecond time, declaring, that ſhe had only to ſignify her commands, and her ſlave would even lay down his life for her proſperity. She made a ſign to me to ſit down; I did ſo, and ſhe addreſſed me as follows: Without doubt, Chriſtian, it is not unknown to you that I am deſtined by my royal father to be the wife of Abdoulraman. The riches and ſplendid origin of that great Lord are but ſecondary cauſes for this deciſion in his favour. For his wondrous wiſdom hath his ſovereign ſelected him from amongſt the Mooriſh nobles, to become his ſon-in-law. His fame for this quality hath extended far and wide: none ever heard from the lips of Abdoulraman a ſentence, or an

expreſſion,

expreſſion, that was not ſapient in the extreme. But alas! what is wiſdom to the female heart? Prince Aben-Humeya, a youth deſcended from a long line of Kings, and related to our own auguſt family, with but a twentieth part of the ſenſe of the favoured Abdoulraman, hath made an impreſſion on my virgin heart, which cannot, while I have life, be obliterated. In fine, I prefer the gaiety and good legs of Aben-Humeya to the exalted underſtanding of his ill-ſhaped adverſary.

But ah! Chriſtian, ſo partial is the King my father to the mental endowments of Abdoulraman, that nothing but a miracle, or what is equivalent to a miracle, can afford me any hope of eſcaping this hated union. Now I have learnt from an Egyptian, who is ſkilled in the knowledge of the vegetable world beyond what hath been ever attained to by the art of man, that there grows upon the hills of the Sierra Morena a certain herb, which poſſeſſes the rare property of creating inſtant folly in the human mind, and of cauſing the very wiſeſt to ſpeak nonſenſically. This, Chriſtian, if by your exertions I can procure, I ſhall be ſaved from the abyſs of deſpair, and united to the youth to whom my ſoul is ſo devoted. For, if Abdoulraman be convicted of fooliſhneſs, the King my father will beſtow my hand upon the amiable Aben-Humeya, to whoſe happineſs the ſuperior wiſdom of his rival hath hitherto been the only obſtacle.

The ſervice therefore which I expect you to perform, is to depart without delay for the Sierra Morena, and there to ſearch for this precious vegetable, which you will know by the ſeven woolly leaves that encompaſs it near the root, and by the little yellow bells that ornament the ſtalk, and ſend forth a delicious odour. It grows only upon the rocky eminences, where ſeldom the foot of man is ſeen to tread. When you have found it, return with ſpeed, and let the juice of it be mingled with the viands of Abdoulraman. So ſhall he talk fooliſhly, and be rejected by the King my father, who will ſtraightway diſpoſe of me to Prince Aben-Humeya. Take therefore this purſe of ſequins, and ſhew this ring to the centinels of the Alhambra, who, on ſeeing it, will not oppoſe your departure.

Thus ſpake the illuſtrious daughter of King Muley Abdallah.—I bowed my head reſpectfully, then retired, concealing the purſe and ring within my girdle.

(To be concluded in our next.)

BRABANT

BRABANT *and* FLANDERS.

Repreſentation made on the 17th of September 1790, at the Hague, by the Miniſters of the three Allied Powers, to Meſſrs. le Comte de Naſſau Lorroij and Van Leempoel.

GENTLEMEN,

YOU have ſolicited our good offices in the preſent ſtate of your affairs. You know the engagements which the Allied Powers have entered into at Reichenbach. Theſe engagements, founded upon wiſe, juſt, and benevolent principles, will certainly be executed with all the ſincerity which characteriſes the High Contracting Parties, and at the ſame time, with the beſt diſpoſition, to conciliate the minds of your countrymen, and to contribute to their true welfare in a ſatisfactory and permanent manner.

While the reſpective Miniſters are agreed upon the propoſals to be made, and the means to be adopted, upon which we are not yet authorized to pronounce, may we be permitted to offer as individuals, and not miniſterially, advice which we have at heart?

We beſeech you to liſten to it with the attention it deſerves, and to ſubmit it without delay to the examination of your conſtituents.

The effuſion of human blood is terrible, even when the neceſſity of circumſtances requires it; but when it takes place without neceſſity, or even utility, either real or pretended, it is a revolting barbarity, which makes humanity and religion ſhudder. You perceive we allude to the proceedings which have taken place for four weeks paſt, and which yet continue in the country of Limburg!—Let us join our endeavours, gentlemen, to put a ſtop to theſe proceedings, which in every caſe cannot but produce a real evil.

Aſk of your conſtituents, inſtructions to inſtitute and eſtabliſh a ſuſpenſion of hoſtilities till the propoſals which ought to be made to you be prepared, and ſufficiently known to thoſe to whom it belongs, that during this interval nothing may happen to alter the diſpoſition of the powers who intereſt themſelves in procuring tranquility to your province.

Communicate to us as ſoon as poſſible the reſult of your endeavours upon this ſubject.

We dare to flatter ourſelves, that, without heſitation, your conſtituents will be deſirous that we ſhould take the moſt proper meaſures with the Auſtrian Generals to induce them to ſuſpend on their part, during the ſame time, all kind of attack.

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It would be ſuperfluous to ſupport by argument this repreſentation—Do juſtice to the ſentiments by which we are actuated; and above all, gentlemen, do all in your power that this advice may have the happy effect which we have a right to expect from it.

Anſwer to the foregoing Repreſentation.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Compte de Naſſau having communicated to Congreſs the repreſentation which your Excellencies made to him and to M. Van Leempoel, that Aſſembly, after having examined it with all the attention which the ſubject deſerves, has charged us to make kno wn to your Excellencies, that it is with the moſt lively gratitude they have learnt, that the three allied powers deign to intereſt themſelves in cauſing a ceſſation in theſe provinces of the effuſion of blood, and to reſtore in them peace and tranquility.

The United Belgic Provinces have a right to expect from the good offices and protection of the three high allied courts a ſucceſs the moſt deſirable, as the direction of it is intruſted to Miniſters whoſe talents and juſtice are univerſally acknowledged. It was with the greateſt repugnance that theſe provinces determined to take arms to free themſelves from a yoke become inſupportable. Your Excellencies, and your reſpective Courts, as neighbours of thoſe provinces, have witneſſed with what reſpect, patience, and firmneſs, the Belgic States have perſevered for three years to claim the maintenance of their religion, conſtitution, and inconteſtible rights and privileges. They were unable to behold, without aſtoniſhment and indignation, with what obſtinate contempt the Auſtrian government, by an unjuſt return, rejected their well-founded remonſtrances, and trifled with the loyalty of a nation worthy of a better fate.

Deſpotiſm at length, after having impreſſed with deſpair the hearts of every claſs of citizens, carried fire and ſword into our cities. Brabant and Hainault have ſeen their citizens ſacrificed to an expiring tyranny; and, above all, the capital of Flanders has been the ſcene of horrors and cruelties, which, from reſpect to the victims themſelves, the States have thought proper to envelope with the veil of myſtery from the eyes of contemporaries and poſterity; and it was not till after having experienced the extreme of injuſtice and cruelty, that the people ſaw no other ſafety but in arms; and, truſting entirely to the juſtice of their cauſe,

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taking Heaven and Europe to witneſs the purity of their views, repelled force by force, and drove from this country their enemies and oppreſſors.

Theſe wounds, gentlemen, yet bleed—the people have before their eyes all the traces of devaſtation, and ſtill feel the evils which tyranny has cauſed them. Emiſſaries ſpread through all the provinces, make incredible but fruitleſs efforts, to ſow jealouſies; diſtruſt, a ſentiment natural to a people more than once deceived, characteriſes all their proceedings, and the leaſt operation, the drift of which is not at once comprehended, alarms them, and appears to them a new ſnare.

Theſe diſpoſitions do not excluſively belong to the people of theſe provinces—they are the lot of every nation acquainted with the value of libery; the feats of Holland, our ancient ally and companion in arms, againſt the Spaniſh Yoke, furniſh proofs of this in every page of their hiſtory. Theſe monuments of hiſtory, analogous in every reſpect to the circumſtances in which theſe provinces are at preſent, recal to the nation the apprehenſions juſtified at length by the event, which the Batavians conceived every time that Spain propoſed to them a ſuſpenſion of arms, or a truce—relaxation in the diſcipline of the army, diſcouragement from the uncertainty of their fate, a free opening for intrigue among the rulers of the republic, and virtual impunity to all the emiſſaries and ſeducers—This is what the Dutch feared—this is what happened, and is what will happen again.

However great be the inclination of the provinces to ſtop the ſtreams of precious blood which have flowed, and yet flow, from ſo glorious a cauſe as that which we defend, without having provoked it, they cannot abandon for a moment to the dangerous chance of a ſuſpenſion of arms, a people, who ſhew as much confidence in their repreſentatives, as attachment to their liberty.

We ſay for a moment, ſince, if the States were enabled to aſſure the nation of means which enſure the maintenance of its religion and liberty, with the ceſſation of the ſcourge of war, it is probable that then it would more readily conſent to paſs over thoſe cuſtomary inquietudes, which a ceſſation of hoſtilities always occaſion.

It is from the good offices of your Excellencies, that our conſtituents expect that benefit. The part which you deign to take perſonally in the fate of a loyal but oppreſſed nation, attached by every tie to thoſe you belong to, authoriſes them to hope that you

will uſe your beſt endeavours to remove the obſtacles which are oppoſed to the accompliſhment of our wiſhes.

Read and approved this 28th of September, 1790.

N. B. Independent of all the conſiderations drawn from the nature of the caſe, your Excellencies are too well informed, not to feel how difficult it is to fix the determination of the Belgic nation, without their firſt knowing the intentions of the allied Courts reſpecting them, as well as the engagements at Reichenbach, ſtated in the repreſentation of your Excellencies—engagements of which our conſtituents have no authentic information.

Characteriſtick Sketches of the preſent King of Naples.

FERDINAND ANTHONY, the preſent King of Naples and the Two Sicilies, and who may perhaps one day grace the Spaniſh throne, certainly leads the moſt unſtately life of any monarch in Europe; not one of them poſſeſſes ſo much familiar jollity, or purſues mirth and pleaſure with ſo much avidity, and with ſo much ſucceſs:—And while he reſolves to be happy himſelf, he is equally determined that none of his ſubjects ſhall be miſerable.

Stories of Monarchs are ſeldom intereſting; one cannot, in general, give credit to tales told of perſons to whom few people have any acceſs, and whoſe behaviour towards thoſe few is circumſcribed within the laws of inſipid and dull routine; but this Prince lives among his ſubjects with the old Roman idea of a window in his boſom.

He rides and rows, hunts the wild boar, catches fiſh in the bays, and ſell it in the market, as dear as he can too; but gives away the money they pay him for it, and that directly: So that no ſuſpicion of meanneſs, or of any thing worſe than a little rough merriment, can be ever attached to his truly honeſt, open, and undeſigning character.

His ſubjects know the worſt of him is, that he ſhoots at the birds, dances with the girls, eats macaroni, and helps himſelf to it with his fingers: he frequently rows againſt the waterman in the bay; and in a recent conteſt of that kind, one of the watermen, in his uncourtly efforts to outdo the King, laboured ſo ſtrenuouſly as to occaſion a violent guſh of blood from his noſe; by this accident his Majeſty won a trifling wager; he laughed, and leaped aſhore amidſt the acclamations of the populace, who huzzaed him

home

home to the palace, from whence he ſent double the ſum he had won to the waterman's wife and children, with other tokens of kindneſs.

When the late Emperor, and the Grand Duke (now King of Hungary) talked to him of their new projects for reformation in the church, he told them, he ſaw little advantage they brought into their States by theſe new-fangled notions; and when he was at Florence and Milan, not a ſingle Neapolitan could he find in either, while his capital was crouded with refugees from thence; that, in ſhort, they might do their way, but he would do his; that he had not an enemy in the world, publick or private; that he would not make himſelf any for the ſake of propagating doctrines he did not underſtand, and would not take the trouble to ſtudy: That he would ſay his prayers as he uſed to do, and had no doubt of their being heard, while he only begged bleſſings on his beloved people. So if theſe wiſe brothers-in-law would learn of him to enjoy life, inſtead of ſhortening it by unneceſſary cares, he invited them to ſee him the next morning play a great match at tennis.

His Sicilian Majeſty is now at Vienna, where his pleaſing ſingularities engroſs the attention of the inhabitants of that city; and where his affability gains him univerſal affection. The two following traits of his conduct at Vienna will further illuſtrate the picture we have attempted to ſketch.

In travelling towards that capital, the indiſpoſition of one of the Princeſſes having conſtrained her to ſtop at Newſtedt, the King aſked, if there were in the neighbourhood hounds and people fond of hunting, with which he might amuſe himſelf. An old butcher was mentioned to him, who was fond of fox-hunting. His Majeſty deſired that he might be brought. The butcher came, and expreſſed his happineſs at being uſeful to his Majeſty. "No Majeſty for me," ſaid the King in very indifferent German, "I am a hunter, as well as yourſelf—Come along." He accordingly took him by the arm, and deſired him to hunt with him; after which he made him a preſent of 50 ducats.

In the ſtable there is a young Poliſh ſaddle-horſe, which has not as yet been thoroughly broken, and which a few days ago he deſired might be brought to him. The King of Naples hearing the order, came down ſtairs in his night-gown and ſlippers, and getting to the foot of the ſtair-caſe the moment the horſe arrived, inſtantly leaped upon his back, and managed him in all the leapings and turnings with as much eaſe as the moſt able jockey. So much

eaſe ſurpriſed without diſpleaſing, becauſe the vivacity of this Prince is accompanied with great goodneſs of heart.

Obſervations reſpecting the Eligibility of Perſons in Orders to become Members of the Houſe of Commons.

IN Mr. Hatſell's precedents we find that in 1553, Dr. Nowell, a Prebendary of Weſtminſter, being elected Burgeſs for Loo, was declared incapable of ſitting, "he having a voice in the Convocation-Houſe," and a new writ was iſſued.

Yet according to Carte, in the third volume of his Hiſtory of England, Dr. Tregonwell, a Prebendary of the ſame church, continued to ſit in the ſame Parliament, as Sir Thomas Haxey, clerk, had formerly done in 1397—20th Richard II.

In 1620, the Committees of Elections decided unanimouſly againſt a clerk returned for Morpeth, "becauſe he had, or might have, a voice in the Convocation-Houſe," and would have fined the town but for its poverty. The Houſe agreed, and a new writ was iſſued.

In 1661, it was referred to the Committee of Elections to examine whether Sir Joſeph Craddock be in holy orders, and ſo diſabled to ſit as a member. The Committee reported that Dr. Craddock was in holy orders, and, in their opinion, incapable of being elected a Burgeſs; to which reſolution the Houſe agreed, and declared the election void.

Mr. Juſtice Blackſtone, Comment. vol. I. p. 175, is of opinion with Sir Edward Coke, that the clergy are, by law, incapable of ſitting in the Houſe of Commons.

"Whatever the laws may be, the fact is, that ſeveral perſons in orders have been elected, and ſat as Members of the Houſe of Commons, though not bearing the habit or appearance of clergymen; but none of theſe elections have been petitioned againſt, or complained of.

"A diſtinction has been ſometimes taken between perſons in Prieſt's and in Deacon's orders—the firſt, it is ſaid, being an indelible character—the other not, I have reaſon to believe, from converſations with perſons extremely well informed in eccleſiaſtical law, that there is no foundation for entertaining any doubt upon the ſubject; but that perſons, whether in Prieſt's or Deacon's orders, are, with reſpect to the character in which they are conſidered, preciſely in the ſame ſituation."

It

It ſhould be added that ſome of the firſt political characters of this or any preceding age, whoſe accurate comprehenſion of the ſpirit of the conſtitution, and profound ſkill in the forms of Parliament have never been diſputed, are clearly of opinion that perſons in orders are not eligible to ſit in the Houſe of Commons.

ANECDOTES.

A Sailor lately going to Graveſend in one of the tilt boats, and being much in liquor, was adviſed by the Captain and others on board to go below and tumble into a hammock; but neither ſmooth nor rough words had any effect on Jack! he ſung and he ſwore, and his unaccountable ſpeeches to the people paſſing in other veſſels were high entertainment to the company above.

The boat had not gone far beyond the halfway houſe, when the groggy ſailor, making a run towards the ſteerage, fell overboard: The boat immediately put about, and every aſſiſtance was given, and what was ſtill more fortunate, a wherry at the time was near at hand, who, ſeeing the accident, made inſtantly to the ſpot.

Jack was for ſome time under water, and when he roſe up, the firſt thing he eſpied was his hat, at which he immediately made a ſnatch, and holding it above his head, kept ſwimming with the other hand until he was taken into the boat. When brought on board he was ſpeechleſs, and it was viſible he had ſwallowed a great quantity of water, which, upon rolling him about the deck, he ſoon diſcharged. His wet clothes were then taken off, and he was wrapt up in ſome of the Captain's warm, rough weather coats, and carried below, where he continued ſleeping till the veſſel was within a mile of Graveſend, and then awoke, and, turning to his next neighbour, the firſt words uttered by him were, "D—n my eyes, my lad, did I not ſtick cloſe by my hat to the laſt?"

IN the year 1746, when England was engaged in a very hot war with Spain, Capt. Edwards, of the Elizabeth, of London, coming through the Gulph from Jamaica, richly laden, met with a moſt violent ſtorm, in which the ſhip ſprung a leak, that obliged them, for the ſaving of their lives, to run into the Spaniſh port of the Havannah. The Captain went on ſhore, and directly waited on the Governor, told him the occaſion of his putting in, adding that

that he ſurrendered the ſhip as a prize, as well as himſelf and crew priſoners of war, only requeſting good quarter.—"No, Sir, (replied the Governor) if we had taken you in fair ſea, or approaching our coaſt with hoſtile intentions, your ſhip would then be a lawful prize, and your people priſoners; but when diſtreſt by the hand of Providence you come to our port for the ſafety of your lives, we being men, though enemies, are bound by the laws of humanity to afford relief to the diſtreſſed who aſk it of us. We cannot, even againſt our foes, take advantage of an act of God. You have leave, therefore, to unload your ſhip, if that be neceſſary to ſtop the leak. You may refit her here, and traffic ſo far, beſides, as ſhall be needful to pay the charges. When repaired, you may then depart. I will give you a paſs to be in force till you are beyond Bermuda. If after that, you are taken, then you will be a lawful prize; whereas now, as you are only a ſtranger, you have a ſtranger's right to ſafety and protection."—Here was generous bravery, indeed! the ſhip departed accordingly, and arrived, without any other accident, in the port of London.

A Very remarkable circumſtance happened to the late Dr. Adam Smith, in his infancy, which had nearly deprived the world of his eminent literary abilities. He was carried off from his parents at Kirkcaldy by a gipſey, and ſearch was made for ſome time after him in vain, when a gentleman gave information, that he had met on the road a child crying piteouſly, in the arms of a poor woman. Meſſengers were immediately diſpatched on the road the gentleman deſcribed, who fortunately overtook the woman; ſhe inſtantly threw down the child, who was thus miraculouſly reſtored to his friends and to the world.

A Lady who had been for a conſiderable time attended by a phyſician, to whom at each viſit ſhe had given two guineas, began to think it too much and determined in future to give him but one guinea. Accordingly the next time he attended her ſhe gave him but one guinea, upon which the Doctor thought he had let one fall and began to look about the room for it. The lady enquired if he had loſt any thing—"I believe I have dropped a guinea," ſaid he; "No, no, Doctor," ſaid ſhe, "it is I that have *dropped* a guinea."

WHEN

WHEN the late Mr. Roſs was compelled, from the changed appearance of his perſon, to relinquiſh the ſtage, he was for ſome time conſigned to ſevere diſtreſs. Improvident, like the generality of his brethren, he had made no proviſion for the future, and an ill-paid annuity ſerved rather to tantalize than to relieve. His wants however unavoidably diſcloſing themſelves, he was one day ſurpriſed by an incloſure of a 60l. note; the envelope containing only a mentton that it came from an old ſchool-fellow, and a direction to a banker, where he was to receive the ſame ſum annually.—This, which he afterwards found his moſt certain proviſion, was continued for many years, and the donor was ſtill unknown.—The myſtery was at length diſcovered through the inadvertence of the banker's clerk, and Roſs, with infinite gratitude, found his benefactor in the perſon of—*Admiral Barrington.*

SOME years ago an Iriſh gentleman bought a horſe, with a very curious pedigree, of a great dealer in Yorkſhire. In going over to Ireland, unfortunately the pedigree was loſt; upon which the gentleman wrote to the dealer for *another copy*—The dealer's reply was, "if he would pledge his honour that it was really loſt, he would ſend either a copy of that, or *another as good.*"

AN Iriſhman was brought before a juſtice at Briſtol, on a charge of having *ſix wives*!—The magiſtrate aſked him how he could be ſo hardened a villain as to delude ſo many?—"Pleaſe your Worſhip, ſays Pat, I was only trying to get a *good* one!

A Few days ago a Dutch ſeaman had the audacity to aſk a Britiſh tar, if he knew the meaning of the medal which hung at his (the Dutchman's) breaſt, as the memorial of Mynheer's pretended victory at the Dogger Bank.—Yes, yes, ſays Jack, of Wapping, I *knows* it very well—its a forgery on the Dogger Bank!

A Man of polite manners, and a bigot to the gloomy tenets of Calvin, happened to fall into a religious diſpute. "God Almighty (ſaid

(ſaid the Calviniſt) may, conſiſtently with his juſtice, damn you eternally, even for the beſt works which you are capable of performing."—"He is more of a Gentleman (replied the other), than to behave in ſuch a manner."

Sir John Sinclair's Political Obſervations.

SPANISH COLONIES.

WITH regard to Spain, it is much to be wondered at, that the indignation and reſentment of Europe has not, long ere now, burſt forth againſt that imperious country. The feelings of mankind muſt be callous indeed, to have ſuffered the moſt fertile and valuable provinces in the world, to be ſo long ſubjected to her ſtern and deteſtable domination. With what indignation ought not every nation to be filled, by the arrogant claims of a ſingle monarchy, pretending to engroſs ſuch an extent of empire, and to prohibit every other nation in Europe from approaching it ſhores! Had it not been for its oppreſſions and miſgovernment, what myriads of new inhabitants might not have been flouriſhing at this time in thoſe diſtant regions; and how much would not the enjoyments of Europe have been increaſed by an intercourſe with them! It is full time, therefore, that this tyrannical ſyſtem of oppreſſion ſhould be aboliſhed, and that its colonies ſhould at laſt taſte ſome ſhare of liberty and good fortune.

REVENUE.

OF the whole revenue of the kingdom, at the preſent time, Scotland pays at leaſt one-ſeventeenth part; though, at the Union, it was found that Scotland yielded little more than one-thirty-ſixth part of the whole. It would thus appear, that the revenue drawn from Scotland has augmented in a much more rapid progreſſion ſince the Union, than that of England: the revenue of England having increaſed in the *ratio* of three to one, and that of Scotland nearly in the *ratio* of five and a half to one

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A REFLECTION.

THE human mind is the ſtrongeſt proof of the being of a God. That which had not intelligence could not communicate it; and he who gave intelligence muſt be ſupremely intelligent

INLAND NAVIGATION.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

WHILST the northern and midland counties are exerting themſelves in ſchemes of inland navigation, are expending ſums which may well be called immenſe, and overcoming difficulties which might be almoſt deemed inſuperable, in this moſt beneficial of projects, the counties of Devon and Somerſet ſeem inſenſible to the vaſt advantages they might derive from a canal betwixt Taunton and Topſham, or to dread the expence attending it, though probably it would pay eight or ten per cent. intereſt for their money.

A plan of this kind was propoſed in the Sherborne Paper ſo long ago as the year 1768; it then produced a ſubſcription of 100 guineas to have a perſon from the north to ſurvey and eſtimate it, which was accordingly done, the execution declared not only poſſibly but eaſy, and the expence, including a cut to Tiverton, I think 103,000l.—the papers relating to it were left in the hands of the late Mr. Manley, of Uffculm, and poſſibly may yet be found by his ſucceſſor, Mr. Leigh: With the farther experience of twenty years in works of this kind, I ſhould ſuppoſe it very probable, that the expence might now be ſeveral (perhaps ten) thouſand leſs.

The following were the queries (except two, now omitted as unneceſſary) which then produced the feeble effort of a ſurvey and eſtimate only. I hope their re-publication at a time when the benefits reſulting from it are ſo well and ſo generally underſtood, will induce ſome gentlemen of fortune in the two counties to take the lead in this buſineſs, and ſtir up a ſpirit of enterprize in the weſt as well as in other parts of the kingdom, and am perſuaded they will not only eſſentially ſerve themſelves as well as the public by it, but that the example of ſubſcription once ſet it will not be long in filling, as great numbers of tradeſmen and others in the middle rank of life will be glad to ſubſcribe for one or more ſhares when they are acquainted with the probable advantages attending it. So great was the ardour for ſubſcription to the canal lately finiſhed in Glouceſterſhire, that I have been informed by a gentleman of Cirenceſter, ſhares of 100l. ſold for 110l. *before they begun to work*, though the eſtimate was 160,000l. and though a ſubterranean cut of between two and three miles was neceſſary to its accompliſhment.

If any gentleman, acquainted with what intereſt ſubſcribers to canals generally get for their money, what is the difference in the price of carriage by them and by land, or any other particulars relating to them, would be obliging enough to communicate them to the public, it might tend to forward the plan thus rudely hinted at by, Sir,

Your humble ſervant,

A. B.

September 29, 1790.

Is not a navigable canal from Bridgewater to Exeter practicable at a moderate expence? already navigable from Bridgewater to Taunton, can it not be carried on the river Tone, paſſing near Wellington, thence to Cannonſleigh, and through the Vale to the river Culme, paſſing by Cullumpton and Bradninch at ſome diſtance from the latter, leaving the river Culme, be carried through one or more of the pariſhes called Clyſt, &c. either to Topſham or Exeter?

Can any conception be formed of the quantity of goods now conveyed on horſes and wheel carriages, between thoſe places? from Sheffield, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton, from Manchester, Leeds, and Hallifax, from Wigan, Preſton, and Bolton, from Glouceſter, Worceſter, &c. &c. are not the quantities immenſe?

Is it not likely that a readier conveyance and at an eaſier expence would at leaſt double the quantity? would not iron and coal from Wales and the Foreſt, groceries and ſalters goods, with various other articles from Briſtol, which will not bear land carriage; and vaſtly larger quantities of cheeſe from Bridgewater market, be an inconceivably great addition to what paſſes now by this way?

Might not vaſt quantities of goods from all the above places be conveyed through this cut for the South coaſt of Devon and Cornwall, and even for Dorſet and Hampſhire, could they have better conveyance by any other way?

How often in winter or in war might ſuch a cut ſave to the nation double all its charge? would not the advantage in point of time be greatly worthy conſideration? three days at moſt would be ſufficient for conveyance between Briſtol and Exeter, which round the Land's End ſometimes requires two or three months?

Would

Would it not be greatly uſeful for conveyance of timber, brick, ſlate, lime, which are carried *ten miles* from Cannonſleigh, grain, cyder, wool, oils, wines, dye-ſtuffs, and other articles almoſt innumerable, for the benefit of the contiguous inland towns and villages, whether in agriculture, manufacture, trade, commerce, buildings, &c.

What number of horſes would be rendered uſeleſs?

Is not this an object worthy the attention of merchants and traders in Briſtol and Exeter?

An ANECDOTE.

CAPTAIN JENKINS was Commander of one of thoſe veſſels which had been boarded by the Spaniſh Guarda Coſtas—The ſhip was rummaged on pretence of ſearching for contraband commodities, but finding nothing that might juſtify their ſearch, they inſulted Jenkins in the moſt abuſive language, they tore off one of his ears, wounded him in ſeveral places, and tortured him with the moſt ſhocking cruelties; they ordered him to carry his ear to the King, and to tell him that they would ſerve him in the ſame manner if they had the opportunity. The bold ſeaman was examined at the Bar of the Houſe of Commons.—When his ear was produced, he was interrogated by a Member, "what he thought when he was in the hands of thoſe barbarians?" to which he replied, "that he recommended his ſoul to God, and his cauſe to his country." This noble reply, the ſight of his ear, his detail of his ſufferings, and the indignities offered to his Sovereign, threw the Houſe in a flame; this brave man's wrongs filled the Members of the Oppoſition with indignation, and on the 10th of July, 1739, orders were given for making repriſals on the Spaniards.

A Mild and effectual Mode of Reproving Servants.

THE late Mr. Hayward, of Cheſter, was remarkable for retaining his ſervants a conſiderable number of years, which, he has often obſerved, was more the effect of a gentle than ſevere mode of reproving them: As for inſtance, when a ſervant waiting at table has been ſo far neglected as to ſuffer him to wait for a clean plate, he has aroſe himſelf and done that office; when the

ſervant apologizing for the neglect, has received for anſwer, "There is no harm done—your head was upon other buſineſs, and it is impoſſible you can attend to two things at once." So if his garden has been neglected, he would take a ſpade, in the preſence of the gardener, and falling to work, extort a ſimilar apology from him, which he returned with, "Don't diſturb yourſelf; you have ſomething elſe to think of, and you can't poſſibly mind my buſineſs and your own together." Two or three of theſe quaint but keen rebukes ſerved him for more than 30 years, and he found them abundantly more ſalutary, and far leſs troubleſome, than any violent ſcoldings or oaths that could poſſibly be made uſe of.

Anſwer, by D. Robarts, of Kingſbridge, to W. Upjohn's Queſtion, inſerted Auguſt 23.

THE queſtion, after tranſpoſition, ſtands thus, $x-y=48$, and $x+y=78$; then $48+78\div$ by $2=63$, and $78-48\div$ by $2=15$; conſequently $x=63$, and $y=15$.

§ We have received the like anſwer from G. W. Dawliſh.

Ships now in Commiſſion enigmatically expreſſed, by W. Upjohn, of Shaftesbury.

1. ONE-THIRD of the goddeſs of mirth, the head of a domeſtic animal, and an advocate for the ancient conſtitution of England.

2. Two-fifths of to improve, and three-ſevenths of a collection of flowers.

3. A quadruped leaving out a letter, the initial of an inſtrument that ladies uſe, and to govern tranſpoſed.

4. An offſpring, half of a title of Juno, and what is uſed at ſea, altering a letter.

5. Seven-eighths of a very beautiful flower, and the initial of nothing.

6. One-fourth of a Grecian Prince ſaid to be changed into a violet, the head of a muſical inſtrument, and a very common game tranſpoſed.

A CHARADE

A CHARADE, *by Edwin, of Truro.*

MY firſt is ſeen like ether bright,
And helps the miner in his work;
My ſecond doth the dog affright
When he doth ſnarl, or bite, or bark:
My whole combin'd will bring to ſight
A thing that's often us'd by night.

A REBUS, *by Thomas Daw, of Totnes.*

WHEN night puts on his ſullen frown,
And gloomy darkneſs ſpreads around,
Then from my firſt the owl at night
Doth take his ſolitary flight;
Next one of Actæon's hounds expreſs;
What man was kill'd by Hercules;
Then bring to mind a well-known tree;
Laſtly define a part of me.
The initials join'd his name will bring
Who bravely fought for Albion's King.

†‖† *The Subſtance of the Letter on the Subject of Morning Viſits will ſoon have a Place.*

‖*‖ *The Characters of Coriarius, Paraſiticus, and Ceſonia, cannot be inſerted becauſe they appear to be perſonal Attacks. The Copy will be returned if the Writer deſires it.*

*** *We earneſtly requeſt our Correſpondents to be more careful to render the different Productions they ſend correct, that we may not be obliged to leave them out on Account of their Want of Merit.--We would alſo caution the Writers of Enigmas, Rebuſſes, Charades, Queſtions, &c. againſt ſending any but ſuch as are original.*

‡‖‡ *Our Correſpondents who ſend Queſtions, Enigmas, Charades, Rebuſſes, or Anagrams, are requeſted to ſend with them their genuine Solutions, as otherwiſe they cannot be inſerted.*

‖‡‖ *Our Correſpondents are requeſted to obſerve that it is expected they ſhould pay the Poſtage of their Letters, and that otherwiſe they will not ſee what they ſend inſerted.*

*** *Our Correſpondents are deſired to obſerve, that they may ſend their Favours by any of the Newſmen, free of Expence.*

POETRY.

POETRY.

Extracts from Peter Pindar's Complimentary Epiſtle to James Bruce, Eſq. the Abyſſinian Traveller.

——— *Non Fabula mendax.*

Wonders! Wonders! Wonders! ! !

HOW rarely man the haunts of wiſdom ſeeks,
Pleas'd with the life of cabbages and leeks!
Tho' form'd to plough the ſoil, divinely ſtrong,
'Tis famine goads him, like an ox, along:
But Bruce, on *curioſity*'s wild wings,
Darts, hawk-like, where the game of marvel ſprings.
Let envy kindle with the bluſh of ſhame,
That dares to call thee, Bruce, a thief of fame.
Pleas'd to thy wonder's vortex to be drawn,
A thouſand volumes could not make me yawn:
And (O accept a ſalutary hint)—
The world will read as faſt as thou canſt print.

Curs'd by the gooſe's and the critic's quill,
What tortures tear us, and what horrors thrill!
Thus that ſmall imp, a tooth, a ſimple bone,
Can make fair ladies and great heroes groan;
Tear hopeleſs virgins from their happy dream,
And bid for doctors' ſtead of ſweethearts ſcream;
In tears the tender, toſſing infant ſteep,
And from its eyelids bruſh the dews of ſleep;
Where, with a cheek in cherub bluſhes dreſt,
It ſeeks, with fruitleſs cries, its vaniſh'd reſt.
Far diff'rent, thou, erect in conſcious pride,
Coloſſal dar'ſt the critic hoſt beſtride;
Like yelping coward curs canſt make them ſkip,
And tremble at the thunder of thy whip.

HOW

How hard that thou, a buſy working bee,
Shouldſt range from flow'r to flow'r, from tree to tree;
Fly loaded home from ſhrubs of richeſt prime,
Egyptian, Nubian, Abyſſinian thyme,
And plund'ring drones* upon thine honey thrive,
Who never gave an atom to the hive!
Huge whale of marvel-hunters, further ſay,
And glad the preſent and the future day;
Speak! did no angel, proud to intervene,
Bear thee, like Habbakuk, from ſcene to ſcene?

Lo! moon-ey'd wonder opes her lap to thee:
How niggardly, alas! to luckleſs me!
Where'er thro' trackleſs woods thy luckier way,
Marvels, like dew-drops, beam on ev'ry ſpray.
Bleſt man! whate'er thou wiſheſt to behold,
Nature as ſtrongly wiſhes to unfold;
Of all her wardrobe offers every rag,
Of which thy ſkill hath form'd a conj'ror's bag.
Thy deeds are giants, covering our's with ſhame
Poor waſted pigmies! ſkeletons of fame!
To thee how kindly hath thy genius giv'n
The maſſy keys of yonder ſtar-clad Heav'n;
With leave, whene'er thou wiſheſt to unlock it,
To put a few eclipſes in thy pocket!
Nature, where'er thou tread'ſt, exalts her form;
The whiſp'ring zephyr ſwells a howling ſtorm;
Where pebbles lay, and riv'lets purl'd before,
Huge promontories riſe, and oceans roar.
Thrice envy'd man (if truth each volume ſings),
Thy life how happy! hand and glove with Kings!
A ſimple ſwain, a ſtranger to a throne,
I ne'er ſat down with kings to pick a bone!
For ſmiles I gap'd not, crouch'd not for aſſiſtance;
But paid my ſalutations at a diſtance:
Yet live, O Kings, to ſee a diſtant date,
Becauſe I've got a pretty good eſtate;
A comely ſpot near Helicon, that thrives;
A leaſehold tho', that hangs upon their lives;
Set to George Kearſley‡, at a moderate rent;
Enough for me, poor ſwain, it brings content.

* Alluding to an Abridgement of Mr. Bruce's Travels.
‡ The name of his publiſher.

Were Heav'n to place a crown upon my head,
So meek, ſo modeſt, I ſhould faint with dread;
And like ſome honeſt Biſhop, with a ſigh,
" Pity my greatneſs, Lord!" would be my cry.
Poets, like ſpiders, now-a-days muſt ſpin,
E'en from *themſelves*, the threads of life ſo thin.
Nought pleaſeth now the rulers of great nations,
But books of wonders, and ſweet dedications.
Kings, like the mountains of the mood, indeed,
Proud of their ſtature, lift a lofty head;
Heads, like the mountains alſo, cold and raw,
That, ice-invelop'd, ſeldom feel a thaw.
O may the worſt of ills my ſoul betide,
For *me* if ever love-ſick lady died!
If fatal darts from theſe two eyes of mine,
Play'd havock with fair ladies' hearts, like thine:
No, no! I ever a hard bargain drove,
And purchas'd ev'ry atom of my love.
O Bruce, I own, all candour, that I look
With envy, downright envy, on thy book!
A book, like Pſalmanazar's, form'd to laſt,
That gives th' hiſtoric eye a ſweet repaſt;
A book like Mandeville's, that yields delight,
And puts poor probability to flight;
A book that e'en Pontipodan would own;
A book moſt humbly offered to he throne;
A bock, how happy, which the King of Iſles
Admires (ſays rumour), and receiv'd with ſmiles!

The fool, with equal gape, aſtoniſh'd ſees,
Thro' wonder's glaſſes, elephants, and fleas;
But thou, in wonder's ſchool long bred, full grown,
Art pleas'd indeed with elephants alone:
Know, where th' Atlantic holds th' unwieldy whale,
My heart had panted at the monſter's tail:
Had Bruce been there, th' invincible, the brave,
How had he daſh'd at once beneath the wave!
Bold with his dirk the mighty fiſh purſu'd,
And ſtain'd whole leagues of ocean with his blood.
Then riſing glorious from the great attack,
Grac'd with the watry tyrant on his back!

(To be continued.)